

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/784,499

Applicant(s)

MAKAM ET AL.

Examiner

Art Unit

Salman Ahmed

2619

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to RCE filed on (10/25/2007).
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-7, 9-20, 22- 26, 33, 34, 37- 39 (Currently renumbered to 1-24, 26, 27, 25, 28 and 29 respectively).
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 1-7, 9-20, 22- 26, 33, 34, 37- 39 are allowed.

Reason for Allowance

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art of record does not teach the following:

In regards to claim 1 the prior art does not teach a first switching circuit be responsive to the modify command during a second time period to reserve virtually concatenated second resources at a second bandwidth greater than a first bandwidth for transmitting data between a first and second interfaces at the second bandwidth and to launch a second path setup message using the signaling protocol; be responsive to a second path acknowledge message during the second time period to complete a second connection between first and second interfaces using the second resources, the first and the second connections being combined as a virtually concatenated connection; a second switching circuit be responsive to the second path setup message during the second time period to reserve virtually concatenated fourth resources at the second bandwidth for transmitting the data between the first and second interfaces at the second bandwidth and to launch the second path acknowledge message using the signaling protocol.

In regards to claim 14 the prior art does not teach responding to the connection modify command during a second time period to reserve virtually concatenated second

resources at a second bandwidth greater than a first bandwidth for transmitting the data across the first switching circuit at the second bandwidth and to launch a second path setup message using the signaling protocol; responding to the second path setup message during the second time period to reserve virtually concatenated fourth resources at the second bandwidth for transmitting the data across the second switching circuit at the second bandwidth and to launch a second path acknowledge message using the signaling protocol.

In regards to claim 37 the prior art does not teach the network management system uses a digital cross-connect to initiate a connection create command at a first add/drop multiplexer, the first add/drop multiplexer reserves resources for the connection in response to the connection create command, the digital cross-connect then transmits a path setup message to the second add/drop multiplexer using the synchronous optical network to establish a path between the first add/drop multiplexer and the second add/drop multiplexer, the second add/drop multiplexer sends a path acknowledge to the digital cross-connect once the second add/drop multiplexer has reserved resources for the connection specified by the path setup message, the path acknowledge is received by the digital cross-connect and the digital cross-connect then reserves resources for the connection specified by the path setup message, and the digital cross-connect then forwards the path acknowledge message to the first add/drop multiplexer and the first add/drop multiplexer then completes the connection.

In regards to claim 39 the prior art does not teach launching a connection modify command from a network management system via a digital cross-connect to a first

switching circuit reserving first additional resources for the existing connection at the first switching circuit and launching a path setup message from the first switching circuit to the digital cross-connect in response to receiving the connection modify command at the first switching circuit, reserving second additional resources for the existing connection at the digital cross-connect and forwarding the path setup message to the second switching circuit in response to receiving the path setup message at the digital cross-connect, reserving third additional resources for the existing connection at the second switching circuit, virtually combining the third additional resources with the existing connection at the second switching circuit, and launching a path acknowledge message to the digital cross-connect in response to receiving the path setup message at the second switching circuit, virtually combining the second additional resources with the existing connection at the digital cross-connect and forwarding the path acknowledge message to the first switching circuit in response to receiving the path acknowledge message at the digital cross-connect, and virtually combining the first additional resources with the existing connection at the first switching circuit in response to receiving the path acknowledge message at the first switching circuit.

The prior art alone or in combination fails to jointly suggest or teach the claimed combination of features as taught by the instant application. Therefore claims 1-7, 9-20, 22- 26, 33, 34, 37- 39 are to be deemed allowable over prior art.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Salman Ahmed whose telephone number is (571) 272-8307. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 am - 4:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edan Orgad can be reached on (571) 272-7884. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Salman Ahmed
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2619

SA

12/20/2007

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SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

